



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

Anthony J Lee, OMIEAust

Tony Lee was educated at the Launceston Technical College and completed his electrical apprenticeship at the Launceston Railway Workshops. After several years at the Workshops and some teaching at the Technical College, he joined the Hydro-Electric Commission to work on the installation and commissioning of protection equipment in power stations and substations across the State. He was often called out at short notice as a capable trouble-shooter when problems occurred. He retired as a Senior Technical Officer in 2003.

Tony joined Engineering Heritage Tasmania in 2004 and became Secretary in 2006. As Secretary he was responsible for recording the minutes of Committee meetings and managing both the correspondence files and the expanding heritage records. Having grown up in Launceston and worked in Sheffield, Tony has added much needed north-south balance to the Hobart-based committee.

In 2005 Tony's heritage recognition nomination for the Duck Reach Power Scheme in Launceston (1895) was a monumental achievement in two volumes, one of the nomination itself and the second containing the original papers presented by the engineers involved in the scheme, brought back to life using optical character recognition. In particular he researched the activities of Kynaston Murray (1836-1916) who was responsible for the electrical design and procurement and overseeing the construction and commissioning of the power station equipment.

Since 2006 Tony has almost single-handedly taken responsibility for continuing the Tasmanian quarterly heritage lecture program, constantly generating good ideas and recruited willing speakers, covering a diverse range of interesting topics. Examples include steam cars, the Abt Railway, Brunel's portable hospital in the Crimean War, mediaeval artillery, the Kennedy Engineering Works and Hobart Radio. The lectures are well advertised outside EA and successfully attract a healthy attendance of people from kindred bodies.

As an avid collector of historical books Tony has added many volumes to the heritage library, often at minimal expense and his almost encyclopaedic memory is of considerable value to the committee. Given his other interests in the Tasmanian Transport Museum, the Royal United Services Institute and the Maritime Museum of Tasmania, Engineering Heritage Tasmania is very fortunate to benefit from the time and effort he is giving and he is a worthy recipient of an Award of Merit.

